

Fairhope Museum of History

Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2017

Attending: John Taratsas, Abby Dunlap, Catherine King, Wayne Brunson, also: Director,
Donnie Barrett and Museum Assistant, Darby

- 4: 01 pm - Meeting was called to order
- July meeting minutes were distributed and approved. (Dunlap/King)
- Donnie made announcements including:
 - Museum now falls under the Nix Center in the city organizational chart
 - Round-Up Day program to take place November 11. Discussion of costumes, participation, etc.
 - Accessions: Darby is still new / training – not cataloging yet - no accessions were processed this past month but will be soon; this item was tabled until the next meeting
- Darby presented the past attendance count:
 - Past month (September) = 1332 / Past month daily average = 60
 - Past quarter (July, August, September) = 4755 / Past quarter monthly average = 1585
- Discussion of attendance count:
 - Low for the month of September, suspected in part due to library film series conflicting with Museum's Tuesday tea program – Donnie said the library has agreed to change their time to Thursdays for the future so as not to compete for the same audience
 - Projected for October, there will be nine school groups in the month

- Starting next meeting, we will begin adding the Welcome Center attendance to our board meeting updates since the Museum is now overseeing operations over there
- Donnie discussed special programs / tasks:
 - Oct. 17 11am - Unveiling of the Bradford monument: Jennifer Fidler had applied for a horticultural historical preservation grant as part of the library parking lot program and the marker is part of that grant proposal. There will be a Bradford family reunion during this time as well. Susie Bradford will speak on behalf of the City. Donnie and Catherine discussed inviting Single Tax to the program; Donnie said he would do this.
 - Donnie discussed recently compiling a history of the Fairhope Police Dept. for Sheri Swartz.
 - Donnie reported he saved the City around \$1100 this past month by repairing and repainting the Welcome Center sign.
 - November 4 @ 5pm - There will be a fall “thank-you” party for The Friends and docents out at the tea farm
- Darby shared some materials created during the first month of her employment including:
 - At-a-glance schedule for museum docents
 - Talking points on Craig Sheldon
 - Welcome Center handout – Weekly handout on “what’s happening” in Fairhope has been a big hit for visitors and residents alike
- 4:22 pm - Meeting was adjourned